

Letters to the editor:

Dress code and security challenged

(From Page 2)
we're gonna get our chicken now." No sooner did she say this than she saw the server taking the empty tray back to get more chicken. She thought to herself, "I am never gonna get to eat." Those high heels she had on weren't helping the situation much either.

The chicken was finally brought out and Betty moved on in line. The dessert looked so delicious that Betty knew she could eat two. Obviously she was wrong because Denise Dessert told her she could have only one. Betty complained, "She claims to know more about my stomach than I do." Betty settled for the one dessert and proceeded to find a clean glass. It was almost like trying to find a needle in a haystack. She had to

pick up almost every glass. She found two of the cleaner glasses and left to fill them with grape soda. As the soda was running into Betty's glass, she felt her feet get wet. She looked down to find that she was standing in a pool of dirty water. She almost cried.

When Betty finally sat down, she was so happy that she didn't even care that the table was dirty. After it was all over, Stephanie sarcastically exclaimed, "Boy, I can't wait until breakfast!"

Valerie Carter

To the Editor:

I am very concerned about the "attitude" of my Bennett sisters. They seem to have forgotten that there is strength in numbers.

This year the new rule about wearing dresses or dressing up on

Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday is an example of the "attitude." Instead of yielding and complaining about the new rule, we should speak up until we are heard. But, if we never speak up, we'll never be heard.

We should utilize the power we have in our Student Government Association, Inter-Dormitory Council and through class officers. Go to the meetings and voice an opinion, so our power can work for us.

Ladies, things never just happen to us at Bennett. We either let things happen or make things happen.

Andrea "Sukie" Burch

To the Editor:

With the new school year starting, most students would like to

feel that it will be safe and productive. Will the year really be safe? This year Bennett seems to have hired more security. Everywhere you look, there is a guard sitting somewhere. Everywhere except the right places.

The security plan for our school seems to the students and some of our parents to be just a little slack. How can a woman be safe when she has to park by the gym or by Black Hall and walk to the dormitory at night with little or no lighting and little or no security? Some might say that we have no business being out so late, but some of our students work and don't get in until late. It is a shame to have a night guard make a student wait in front of her dorm five to ten minutes before someone lets her in.

Everyone knows that Bennett is a women's college. How come more men who aren't even in college seem to inhabit our grounds? We see them not only walking, but riding motorcycles and mopeds, or being accompanied by dogs across the Quad. Is this supposed to go on? Where is our security? Our women have been confronted by flashers, winos from the local store, and high school students. Most of what goes on happens in the evening. Yet, on Aug. 29th about 1:30 p.m., a fight broke out on the steps of Player Hall. Three men, evidently not Bennett students, were having a very physical argument. I don't know the reason behind this, but I did see one man jump the other two. They wrestled for about five minutes until we all saw a guard sauntering over to the scene. He broke up the fight, but left the men sitting together on the steps of Player. Of course, the fight broke out again five minutes later. This time, the men were escorted off campus by two guards. Why did there have to be a second time?

One Sunday two women were walking towards the parking lot near the counseling center, when they saw a man walking towards them. When getting close enough, the man unzipped his pants, revealing himself, and propositioned them. Another woman just two weeks before was confronted by the Freshman Studies building by a man who stood up from behind some bushes with no pants on at all. Upon questioning both parties, it was found that there was a resemblance between the two men.

Why should we have incidents like these happen on our campus? I'm not saying that all of our guards are to blame. It just seems that most of our guards do not care—particularly the ones that work at night. Does someone have to be hurt before the security is tightened? I sure hope not. I think the answer lies in our alumnae and our parents. The students could help out a whole lot too.

Kathy Lewis

Several sources have corroborated the events described in this letter.

Chabaku's aim is truth

F. Scott Fitzgerald, who had an intimate acquaintance with breaking down, once said that the mark of a first-rate intelligence was the ability to hold two entirely contrasting views without cracking to pieces.

Bennett is graced by just such a tested, balanced intelligence this year. This resolute mind belongs to Ms. Motlalepula Chabaku, international adviser in residence for the women's studies program.

Chabaku, banned from her South African homeland, is both survivor and crusader, the victim of political repression and a prophet of hope in a world that seems to grow grimmer and more insane by the minute. Among the sets of ideas clashing in her mind and heart are the knowledge of hatred and the transcendent necessity of Christian love. Reflecting on one, she is always reminded of the other.

She views life in terms of cycles—the alternation of darkness and light, the sour and the sweet. "When one reaches the maximum (of one stage)," she said recently, "it gives the maximum possibility for the other to happen." Chabaku is constantly sounding the Biblical theme that "to everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven."

Echoing Ecclesiastes, Chabaku believes that greed is the source of injustice in the world: "Take any situation (of inequality). The root is basically selfishness. There is enough in the world for every human need. There isn't enough for every human greed." An advocate of global perspective, Chabaku cites as examples the four families who have traditionally made a plantation of El Salvador; the long, bloody Somoza dynasty in Nicaragua, finally overthrown by the Sandinistas; and the avacious implications of American foreign policy, which props up dictatorships as futile fortresses against the just demands of repressed people.

Chabaku bears angry witness to the evils of *apartheid* in South Africa. Her voice is more immediate than television documentaries, more impassioned than the slick pages of news magazines. In her prosperous homeland, there are four million whites and 22 million Blacks. The former own 87% of the land; the latter 13%. Annually, the government spends \$677 for the education of a white child in comparison to \$67 for each Black child who can manage to attend school. Poverty and near starvation in her own family forced Chabaku to quit school before the sixth grade in favor of selling newspapers and insurance.

Outnumbered whites stay busy devising means of controlling and enslaving the Black population—a government imperative that leads to vast chaos and terror and that is doomed to eventual failure. In a move reminiscent of the American brutalization of Indians during the settling of the West, the South African government is "relocating" large numbers of Blacks in wasteland areas. Call those places reservations. Call them concentration camps. Call them a new Gulag archipelago. They all mean the same thing—continued horror, degradation and dehumanization for the inhabitants of the deadlands.

In contrast to the ravages of selfishness, Chabaku feels that the distribution of wealth, food and services should parallel the generosity and decency that reign at a festival. "Each individual brings the best that the individual has to offer . . . There are no winners and losers. Everyone digs into the common bowl."

When Chabaku was a girl, her father kept a tennis ball on the table and urged his children to be as resilient as the ball. To rebound, to float in troubled waters, to always come back. The daughter has mastered this lesson.

We need to absorb the hard truths that Chabaku is telling us and to bound back and work for the transformation of injustice in the world. Chabaku's motto is "I can never be whole until other people are whole." Neither can we.

Campus people in the know and on the go

The fall meeting of the home economics department featured six career women discussing the topic "Personal Appearance and the World of Work" on Sept. 15.

The annual meeting brought together majors, faculty and special guests, according to chairperson Louise G. Streat. Students from other departments—interns and student teachers—also attended.

The six panelists were Jacquelyn Jeffers, director of the career services center; Annie Purcell, executive secretary in the office of planning; Renee Saunders,

manager of Casual Corner; Dr. Nellouise Watkins, computer center director; Mary R. Scarlette, elementary and special education chairperson; and Alma Stokes, principal of Wiley Elementary School.

Students participated in a quiz, attempting to match the special guests with their careers. The winners were Sherrell Douglass, Wanda G. Parker, Sherry Salaam and Marcia Strong. (Tywana Watkins and Diane M. Ewings, reporters)

The new Miss Bennett, Terri Phillips, analyzed the meaning of her role, prior to the Sept. 26 coronation ceremony. "The title signifies many things to me—Black womanhood, independence, self-confidence," commented the senior pre-med major. "The title is a representation of the entire Bennett College community and student body alike. It is a very important title and should be taken as such."

Friends encouraged Phillips to run. "I had thought of running before," she explained, "but, with the knowledge that I definitely had support, I decided to run. I felt that I would be proud to represent the college, and since I'm a 'people-person,' anyway, I didn't anticipate any problems with the public relations aspects of the title."

Phillips hopes to attend medical school where she will specialize in obstetrics and gynecology or pediatrics or radiology.

Her court includes Quandal Chambers, first attendant; Rentonia Hairston, Miss Junior; Monica Jones, Miss Sophomore; Valina Pruitt, Miss Freshman; Leslie Carter, Miss Alpha Kappa Alpha; Wynetta Scott, Miss Zeta Xi; and Sharon Horton, Miss Delta Sigma Theta. (Tina Johnson, reporter)

Films about women and a tie-dyeing workshop marked the Sept. 16-17 Mini International Festival,

whose theme was "Artistic Experience in Global Communications."

"There was a dual purpose for the festival," explained coordinator Geraldine A. Totten. "The first (was) to impose a new visual 'reality' of the power of color. The second (was) to engage participants . . . in an introduction to the international dimensions of communication." Totten also stressed that the impact of the events was "to make manifest through a celebration the connection between communication and the arts and sciences."

Rain cancelled the outdoor activities on the agenda—dance, drama and crafts presentations.

The films, which were well received, consisted of "American Women: Portraits of Courage," "Guilty Madonnas," "Prejudice," "Women Get the Vote" and "Women in Management."

The tie-dyeing workshop was augmented by a slide presentation on Africa from visiting dancer Chuck Davis. Three basic patterns—folding, knotting and sunburst dipping—were practiced by the students. "The material was rinsed and the bands cut, revealing the beauty of the finished product," said Totten.

The coordinator was delighted by the public's participation in the festival: "The community communicated the message of unity. Likewise one's recognition of the perception that color has no bias

relating to depth of spirit."

(Karen Heck, reporter)

Doris Surgeon, assistant professor of business administration, attended the 1981 National Business Education Association Convention in New Orleans, April 15-18. The Convention site was the New Orleans Hilton and the theme was "A Jambalaya for Business Education."

Highlights of the meeting included a keynote address by noted Cajun author and raconteur Justin Wilson. J. W. Marriott, president and chief executive officer of the Marriott Corporation, lectured on distinguished Delta Pi Epsilon.

Two of Bennett's honor students have been chosen to receive scholarships for 1981-82.

Wanda Dick and Sharon Parker, both accounting majors, are recipients of scholarships from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The scholarships are for \$500 each and are renewable depending on academic progress.

Wanda Dick, a senior from Whitsett, has worked on a cooperative education assignment with the Internal Revenue Service in Winston-Salem. Dick says, "I was very excited when I received my letter two weeks after school started. I applied for the award because of my 3.4 academic GPA.

(See Page 4)



Experts convene at the fall meeting of the home economics department to discuss "Personal Appearance and the World of Work." (Left to right) Alma Stokes, Jacquelyn Jeffers, Annie Purcell, Renee Saunders, Nellouise Watkins and Mary R. Scarlette.